

THE WAR FOR THE UNION.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Gov. Crittenden on Sedition.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, June 17, 1861.

There are harbingers of peace impending with the coming Fourth of July. Dr. Crittenden, of the Kentucky College of Pharmacy and Practice, is to be at the Capital with saddle-bags and surgery, to heal the chronic disorder of the patient by the most approved remedies of the old school of Therapeutics. The visit is too late. Alterations and aperients have failed of their virtues. We have had flux-sed poultices and soothing lotions, but inflammation has gone on to suppuration. Dr. Crittenden can spare his sorceries and sorceries. His sweet oil can be saved to mitigate the crudities of his salad, and the attendant feather may be made of service to fiddle the sensitive localities of the constituency who are to send him to Congress with a faded olive-branch in his hand. Its unction and its lubrication will be thrown away on the pinions and journals of the mechanism which he is ambitious to set again smoothly running.

If Congress are to be brought together in the hot, high sun of July, to go over again the old and poor farce of duping and dragging the North into a new complicity with Slavery, under the specious appearance of a truce, it is well that we understand the character of the drama and the cast of the dramatic personae. Mr. Crittenden need not fear a thin house when the performance is to come off. Pit, box and gallery will be filled by a spectatorship who are making it now a special and peculiar business to compromise this question upon a new theory of adjustment. Bell-crowned hats and round-toed boots are just now out of fashion, and discreet men leave them in their wardrobes and buy a new outfit according to the mode. The practice is worthy of the imitation of the modern peace-maker. Five hundred thousand earnest men in arms, every one of whom buckled on his knapsack because he saw there was work to do, are not likely to go home without some practical solution of the difficulties which they have not sought to adjust in this way until all other resources had failed in their trial. Congress may do what they will, but the mightier power which is behind Congress and all other constituted authority will submit to nothing which looks to a restoration of peace without the guarantee of submission for the future, and indemnity for the past. The same men who have touched ballots for a quarter of a century can handle a cartridge with the same dexterity of finger. They will as easily and readily organize a military despotism, if the exigencies of the hour demand it, as they can reconstruct on the foundations of tranquil arbitration. We have opened our eyes to the necessity of a stronger central power, when States are in insurrection, and cities in banded rebellion. We suspend the habeas corpus in public danger, and we may not only restore but keep the subordination of popular elements by the sharp discipline of the sword.

Of Mr. Crittenden I do not propose to speak, except in his public relations. Unhappily, men at 80 are not always so vigorous or so useful as at the tally of 40. I do not hold him to the high force of what he was in middle age. The system which he would arrest in its dying throes is nearer to its end than even he is to his mortal limit. He cannot put aside the inevitable fate which awaits him, nor can he avert the destiny which has written the doom of a decrepit institution. He will hardly live to see how complete and perfect will be the extinction which has been hurried on by the blind guides who have led it to the precipice.

Mr. Crittenden will stand absolved of any secret wish for causing what has been the consequences of his policy. I acquit him of any league with the men who have secretly and stealthily brought us to our present condition. But with this concession to his intention, he has been as active and potential as the leading rebels in hastening the catastrophe. He has gone against his own convictions, not of right merely, but of expediency. He knows how his own State has been held in the chains of a bondage at once on the state and the property of his people. The city on whose levee he lands on his return to his home stands a visible and speaking witness to the fact, which needs no testimony to confirm belief. Louisville is the natural point of a great city. A succession of rapids in the Ohio has aided the industry of man in building the opulence and prosperity of a mart. A region unsurpassed in its wealth of soil belts its environs, and mingles the profits of production with the gains of trade; but while stationary and sluggish in its growth, the fine City of Cincinnati has passed it in the race of greatness, and leaves what should have been a metropolis but a mere suburb.

You may turn out from your berth any morning on your voyage down or up, and, in the confusion of compass and geography from rounding out and rounding-out, in the tactics of steamboat maneuvers, there is the shore of Kentucky and the coast of Ohio or Indiana, unmistakable in the handwriting of free labor on the one, and the feeble tracery of bought toil on the other. You know this, and you confess it, everywhere but in the Senate Chamber and the Representatives' Hall; but there, as if by an invisible impulse to distort truth and deny an actual existence, you scout the diligent labor of the free man and hug the dead carcass of your decay as you would the sources of life.

Had Mr. Crittenden been a bold man, and of the school of the statesman under whose friendship he rose to consideration, the calamity of 1854 would have been avoided. From the healing springs of 1850 might have flowed toleration under the new license given to Southern interests at the expense of Northern prosperity. This was not to be; and with that victory feeding the lust of conquest came the stimulated appetite for more acquisition.

Dred Scott and the attempted Slave Code finished what the Fugitive Slave law had begun. One half of the Union, geographically, is in war against Government, and the other moiety in resistance to the invasion of authority. A flag of truce is not now welcome to either of the parties at issue. The visions of empire and away which, slightly clouded just now, to the leaders have some palpable proportions, and are not regarded as illusions altogether, do not tend to any spirit of accommodation, except upon terms which are not to be considered by the other party.

To us it has a condition beyond the love of

order and quietude. It is an investment. Capital has been put into arms and munitions of war. The adventure is to be treated as an economical outlay, and there must be a balance sheet of profit and loss for the examination of the stockholders. Money, forcibly withdrawn from other employments—cash paid for muskets, powder and provisions—is to swell the debit column of the account, which is not to be counterpoised by the single item of a hollow and treacherous pacification, to last till troops are disbanded and return to the farm and the merchandise. I do not choose now to go into some remote results which are not to be avoided as final issues to the contrary. These are visible, distinctly, to some, and darkly to others. They are to come naturally and in their order, and need not be hastened or waited for with impatience. But of one thing Mr. Crittenden and his fellow workers may be assured—this armed intervention is to be settled by the supremacy of one interest or the other. It will give Slavery preponderance, or the Free States will reclaim the strength which they have left in the weakness of their compliance, to be used for their own subjugation. And there are harsher truths to be impressed on memory for the hereafter. There is to be a condign punishment to the crime of conspiring against the supreme law of the land. Treason, bold and brazen, is not to walk abroad without rebuke. The gathering of armies to overturn and destroy is not to be a holiday parade, but an offense for which the highest penalties are to pay forfeit. What is to be done with persons and property may be a subject of after reflection; but one century of assured quiet must follow the perturbation of the present turmoil. The people ask from Congress prompt legislation for war, generous appropriations in money, and liberal contingents in men. Wordy speeches of fraternity and old brotherhood are not the wants of the hour, and the precious breath of aged or young lungs will be badly wasted in crying "Peace," "Peace," when there is no peace but under the sword.

Physical and Moral Features of the Southern Seat of War.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, June 15, 1861.

I propose to make some notes of those regions of our country now occupying general attention, as the arena upon which the battle of Freedom is to be fought. I was born within a few miles of Aquia, Va., and have passed the greater part of my life in that region, at the same time enjoying a personal familiarity with the borders on both sides of the Potomac. The rivers and creeks named so often in dispatches, are those on whose banks I have fished and hunted; the towns and villages are those where live many dear friends and relatives, to each of whom I can now only say:

I could not love thee, friend, so much, Loved I not honor more.

If any one will examine Mr. Blodgett's Isothermal Chart, published, I believe, at the Smithsonian Institution, he will find in the lines of equal average temperature, the fairest survey of the political temperature of the people. Where the thermometer sinks, Secession sinks. An isothermal line connects Richmond and Memphis physically as well as politically, whilst Eastern Tennessee and Western Virginia are made by their high lands and mountains more unconditional sort than the Union men of Maryland and Kentucky. But nearly all that part of Maryland which lies West of Frederick City justifies this theory. Over in Middletown Valley, for instance, the whole strip of land lying between the Catoctin and the Blue Ridge, our troops might march about as safely as in Pennsylvania. The Methodist Churches in that region have frequently been known to turn the cold shoulder to ministers sent by the Baltimore Conference, who were supposed to be of pro-slavery proclivities. Moving over toward Frederick City we find the pro-slavery and Secession party very strong. It is chiefly so by Church influences. The Catholicism there is of the Taney sort; and the Rev. Henry Slicer, formerly chaplain to Congress, and long the champion of the Southern Division of the Methodist Church, while retaining a connection with Baltimore Conference, was for a long time stationed there. From this point, and all along on the Northern shore of the Potomac the tendency of the people is toward Secession. Should our army march up to the Rockville Turnpike toward Harper's Ferry every step would be among traitors. But should they go up the Brookville pike, almost parallel with it, and landing out past Mr. Blair's residence, every step would be through a comparatively friendly land. This difference in the sections of Montgomery County is to be chiefly attributed to the living branch of Quakerism which fortune has cast into that County. Perhaps the finest Quaker (Hickite) settlement in Maryland is to be found at Sandy Spring, about 25 miles out (N. W.) from Washington City. Wealthy and successful farmers, supporting five schools, a lyceum for lectures, and a valuable circulating library; employing no slave labor, nor even hiring slaves, because the wages must go to the owners of men, these peaceful settlers have distanced those of all other parts of the County, and their influence has extended to other communities. In the early days of Maryland their fathers settled there and accepted the eternal testimony against Slavery; to it they have unanimously adhered. This is the ancestral center of the Stublers, Hallowses, Brookes, Farguhars, and other noble families. When the present troubles began, the Southern Wrong party held a meeting at Rockville, and very much to their dismay the entire tribe of Quakers, "never before known to attend a political meeting," presented themselves. They were met with a ferocious growl; but it was of no use; Secession was paralyzed. Immediately after the Baltimore street conflict, the spirit of Secession swept like a tornado through that State; but the Quakers did not bow to it. They were threatened with a mob. They met, and decided that, alive or dead, there they would remain. And they do remain there, sheltering nightly scores of refugees from the South, and though they may not take the sword, ready to defend, in every way consistent with their testimonies, Liberty.

Not very different from this is the case with Loudon County, Va., just across on the Southern shore of the Potomac. It has several flourishing Quaker (Hickite) societies, which have done much toward making it a region of free labor. This is the region of the Janneys—old friends of Freedom. Samuel M. Janney here met and annihilated the Rev. Dr. Smith, President of Randolph, Macon College, when he made a tour of that State demonstrating the divinity of Slavery, who was met by an indictment when it was found he could not be met by argument. Samuel Janney has here with impunity published several forcible arguments of Slavery. It was in an adjoining neighborhood that Mr. Underwood was able to make so brave a stand for Liberty. A soldier of the Union would find many a friend in Loudon in an emergency. It is also a large, wealthy and productive county, and one which should be occupied by Union soldiers as soon as possible. It commands several strategic points that may presently come into great importance, e.g.: Upperville and Paris (at the point of connection with Fauquier, with a magnificent mountain-pass). As we go down, and a little in the interior, we come to Fauquier County. This is a populous but debauched county. Its county-town, Warrenton (population 2,000), has long been the nest of some of the worst

political gamblers in the State. Here Extra Billy Smith lives; and thence after editing *The Flag* of '98 for years, such men as R. M. Smith and Nat. Tyler went—the former to edit *The Alexandria Statesman*, the latter to edit *The Richmond Enquirer*. It is here that a most honorable man—Robert E. Scott—has been for years brow-beaten; and patriotic young men like poor Capt. Mann (happily fallen in the first engagement with the country he loved) have been systematically coerced into the ranks of treason. I warn our men to watch Warrenton as they would a nest of vipers. Undoubtedly they will find a few noble families there who will run up the dear old flag on their houses, with happy tears, so soon as it waves over the Court-House; but at present there is no Union party there; it is a town ruled by bullies, duellists and gamblers. More family feuds exist there; more duels have been fought there than in any town in Virginia.

Aquia Creek Landing derives its importance from being in the direct path to Richmond. It is in Stafford County, recognized as the poorest county in that section. It is the original county where the dogs have to leap up against a fence in order to bark; and where the majority still votes every four years for Gen. Jackson, denouncing the rumor of his death as a "Whig lie." When a boy I remember Mr. Greeley's coming there and visiting the gold regions, which lie on the upper skirts of the county; he might have remained there and edited *The Tribune* for months, and the unfathomable ignorance of the people as to what *Tribune* meant would have protected him. Mr. Garrison would enjoy the same security. But let lawyer A. B. or C. from Fredericksburg (who might have heard their names) pass along canvassing, and either of those gentlemen would have been murdered in two minutes, "or any other man." With regard to Yankee the Dombrook rule holds good there—"Wherever you see a head, hit it."

To carry an army, even small in numbers, from Aquia to Richmond must be considered a great and very difficult undertaking. From the Chesapeake down through the entire State, large rivers stretch up to the mountains, like so many fingers of a hand, and each of these rivers implies several creeks and tributaries, over which the railroad leaps. From Aquia to Richmond is about 70 miles of railroading, and there are at least 15 important bridges, whose destruction would be easy and extremely annoying. But the greatest difficulties would be passed if an army could reach and occupy Fredericksburg, 15 miles or so south of Aquia Landing. In that little bit of railroading lie three or four points of danger. First, the bridge over the dam at Brooke's Station, on the Accokeek Creek, about five miles from Aquia. It is a light wooden structure, nearly over the pitch of the fall; not very high, nearly 90 feet long. The water is not deep. It is a place affording any quantity of ambushes, &c. Yet five miles further and Potomac bridge is reached. This is over Potomac Run, an insignificant stream (like the Accokeek), but down at the bottom of an immense gorge. This bridge is the highest in the State of Virginia. It is higher above the stream it spans than that at the Relay House, between Washington and Baltimore. It is not, however, like that, built of stone; it has magnificent stone piers and buttresses, but the rest is of wood. This fearful chasm, which must be 150 feet wide and almost as deep, is very defensible, and is no doubt a pet hope with the Rebels. The next important point is the Rappahannock River, which runs just this side of Fredericksburg—the back-logs of houses reaching the water's edge. It will be remembered that this town (which contains about 6,000 inhabitants) is at the head of steam-navigation; above it the river is a long falling stream for 50 miles. Its superior water-power, by the way, cannot be found. Just above Fredericksburg it spreads out and for some miles there it is about a quarter of a mile wide. The bridges over this river are three: one at Falmouth, a village of a thousand inhabitants, a mile and a half above Fredericksburg. This bridge was, about three months ago, broken up by a flood, and I am quite sure, has not yet been rebuilt. Immediately at Fredericksburg, is one known as Chatham Bridge (built of wood), one pier of which was also carried away by the flood, but has doubtless been restored. The Railroad Bridge is a very fine and strong structure, on the same plan and of similar material with that of Potomac Bridge. These bridges might be burned or blown up. If, however, the hither side of the river could be reached, there are high and good hills easy of fortification, from which Fredericksburg might be reduced to ashes in a few hours. The northern bank entirely commands the southern; and the houses of the town are nearly all of wood and very old. The river, though wide, is not very deep—bare frequently obstructing in Summer the coming of the regular Baltimore steamer to the wharf.

As aforesaid, if these fifteen miles could be safely passed and Fredericksburg reached, the rest of the railroad could be held without so much difficulty and traversed without much danger. These perils may be avoided by a foot march to Falmouth. There is a straight road from Aquia to Falmouth, through an almost deserted country, the distance fifteen miles. The only danger of this would be that it is through thick woods nearly the entire distance, affording chances for guerrilla attack. Falmouth once reached, the river could be crossed there by fording, if necessary; or there are enough scows used to take grain down from Falmouth to the wharf at Fredericksburg to make a bridge. That done the city could be approached by a large and beautiful plain.

Fredericksburg is an old town, very characteristic of Old Virginia. It has the usual number of old families, which spend their time seeing which can trace the roots of the family tree deepest into antediluvian strata. Each of these families furnishes its young and ambitious sons, who study law, demonstrate to that aged Federalist, his father, the amazing neology of States Rights, and Cato-like, while yet a child, delight his doting friends by swearing eternal hostility to the foe of Virginia—i.e., all who obstinately persist that the sun does not rise in Fredericksburg and set in Richmond. Some wise and faithful old men still live in Fredericksburg; some true old patriots and gentlemen of the old school; but these "first" families have for the most part gradually disappeared before the "last." Of course there could not be any avowed Unionist in that region—not even a conditional one; but the anti-Unionism of the vicinity is based on the utter ignorance of the people of what is going on in their country, on foul falsehoods told them by leaders; (for it must not be forgotten that the educational census of Virginia showed 80,000 adults who could not read and write.) Undoubtedly, although there are few who would rise to welcome our troops in this region, the masses are in a salvable condition; could easily have the accumulation of lies removed from their minds, and learn for the first time to know and love their country. I should love much to have the old town recovered. It gave to the country Lieut. Maury; it gave, also, J. M. Botte; and it yet retains the class case represents—and their conflict is not yet over by any means. In its corporate limits stands the white shaft marked: "Here lies Mary, the mother of Washington." To rescue that and the sacred memories and principles which hover about it, I would be willing to have cannon planted on the hills of the Washington farm, just across the river, where the boyhood of her son, a nation's savior, was passed, that, through their iron throats, he being dead, might yet speak for liberty and for Man.

Ere I close this sketch, permit me to say a word about the healthiness of the various localities in Virginia. There is no point above the latitude of Richmond City or west of the Ridge where our troops might not spend the Summer without danger of any fatal epidemic. All through what is called the Northern Neck (the counties on the Potomac from Fairfax down) there is a great deal of bilious fever. Prudence, however, evades or alleviates it. Its worst effect would be to enfeeble those who suffered; and certainly a long camp anywhere about Aquia would be very apt to damage the fighting capacity of our boys. But in any region where our troops are now, east or west, they may safely remain during the Summer. There is not a spot in Virginia as bad as Cairo.

On the whole, it seems to me that the natural way

is to transform the whole of Western Virginia into a camp; to take the Blue Ridge for our fortress, and to sweep eastward. The Western Virginia climate is exactly adapted for this, and her people may be trusted as safely as the people of any State. Let it be borne in mind that the Western Virginians have suffered more from Slavery than any others in the land, except the Africans. They are a hardy, self-reliant people, who hold few slaves, and desire to hold fewer; they have been the only producers of wealth in the State; and at the same time, because the basis of representation in the Legislature of that State is the same as it is in the General Government, the slaveholding minority of Eastern Virginia has oppressed them in every form. For years they have pleaded for the white basis, in vain. The East has had all the legislative appropriations; the West has had to pay out of its own pockets. These men know something about Slavery. Let no one class them with the neutrality or conditional Union men, nor yet with sullen, subdued men; they have a deep conviction on this subject, and an unalterable determination. They would, if conquered, be more restive and formidable in the Southern Confederacy than Baltimore is in the Union. Hence Richmond is willing the Potomac should secede from the State, which I hope the Potomac will not do.

Thus we have a natural fortress, with mountain flanks, stretching from Pennsylvania to Tennessee and Alabama. It is a safe stronghold, easily manned by hearts as sturdy as its hills, and free as the winds that play about their summits; its range is over the whole dominion of Treason. That mountain range in the East, and the Mississippi River in the West, are the great rivets of God binding these States into a nation; they cannot be broken.

FROM FORT PICKENS.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

FORT PICKENS, Fla., June 5, 1861.

Permit me for my brother officers, as well as for the enlisted men of this command, to thank you for supplying us with copies of *THE TRIBUNE*. Separated as we are from our homes, upholding the honor of our flag in what has now unfortunately virtually become an enemy's country, nothing is more gratifying to us than to learn what is going on in our distant homes. Our enemies having appropriated to their own use the mail, and absorbing our letters and papers, it is seldom that we have been permitted to enjoy that luxury. Occasionally an officer receives a newspaper, which, after passing through many hands, at length is transferred to the soldier, whose heart is made glad by the sight of it.

All of the soldiers are true patriots; they are attached to our country, and are faithful to its flag. They despise those that have deserted it in its hour of distress, and honor and cheerfully follow those that have stood faithfully by it. It has been my luck to have been through nearly all of the struggles at this place, having arrived off the harbor in the Brooklyn immediately after Lieut. Steamer, in January last, retired from the main land to this post. Our orders when we were left to reinforce the place, but owing to an understanding which the late Administration had entered into with Maj. Chase, we were ordered to remain outside the harbor, and not attempt to reinforce the fort unless it was attacked; but how to do so in that case our wise Administration did not instruct us. Nor did we receive orders to land, under which our naval commander was willing to act until the morning of the 12th of last April; up to that date we were compelled by our instructions to remain on shipboard, with the knowledge that, taking advantage of any stormy night, the enemy might land, and take the fort without our being able to have rendered our friends any assistance. From statements published in the Secession papers, we have since learned that the night of the 12th of April had been selected to assault the work. The attacking parties had been detailed, marched to the wharf, and were ready to embark, when, learning that the fort had been reinforced, the orders were countermanded, and the attack postponed. The information as to the reinforcement of the fort was probably obtained from some one inside of the fort. During this same night an attempt was made by the enemy to corrupt one of the sentinels on the advance guard. Sixty dollars in Alabama money was given to him to bribe his companions with, and the promise of much more if he would spike the flank casemate guns. Indignant at the attempt to bribe him, the soldier revealed the facts, and gave the money to his company commander. Similar attempts were made upon some others of the command, as was shown by careful and repeated examinations of the guns, some of which had evidently been tampered with. To what extent the enemy's attempts were carried it is impossible to ascertain. To the honor of the soldiers let it be said, that while undergoing the greatest amount of privations, being constantly exposed to the dangers of attack, while required to labor hard all day, and afterward to stand watch frequently all night, constantly expecting to be attacked, few if any of them were corrupted by the most tempting offers of the enemy. In their simple honesty, they stood by their country's flag when politicians and statesmen were deserting it. Let the country honor and reward their honesty and devotion.

To return to the account of the embarkation, from which I have digressed. For several days previous to the 12th the weather had been stormy, the sea was very high, and it was with difficulty that the ships retained their anchorages. You must understand that they were about four miles outside of the harbor, and the wind was blowing on shore. Had we attempted to land on the outside of Santa Rosa Island, our boats would have probably been all lost; and to land inside required that we should pass under the fire of the enemy's batteries. The ground over which our boats had to pass had for several days been occupied by a small steamer, and by pilot boats, acting as coast guard for the enemy. The steamer was armed, and should it encounter our boats, might easily have sunk them. The roughness of the sea, however, probably kept her inside of the harbor. One of the pilot boats we encountered, and took it prisoner until after we had effected our landing. Had the enemy discovered our movement and opened his batteries upon us, he might have done us considerable damage, but it would have been difficult to hit us in the dark. The principal danger to be apprehended was that, discovering our movement, the enemy might open his fire upon us as we entered the harbor, and the steamer run us down. Even should we effect our landing, it might be at the very instant of assault, when we would be exposed at the same time to the enemy's attacks and the fire of our friends. All of these difficulties were foreseen, and, as far as possible, provided against; the steamer's lights were put out, and she moved as near as was safe to the shore. The men were embarked early in the night, by which we avoided meeting the enemy. As it was not probable that he would attack much before daylight, we moved along the shore; but as the sea was high, we had to enter the harbor, and were landed safely under the walls of the fort, into which we marched about 2 p.m. The movement occupied about 3 hours. Fortunately, the enemy's steamer was absent, and did not discover the movement until it was too late to prevent it. The next morning we were joined about daylight by 400 marines, and if necessary, we could have had 800 more. These reinforcements secured the fort from an assault, and probably saved it, as it would have been next to impossible to defend it against a determined attack with the small garrison which was then inside of the work—a garrison so small that it could not furnish one man to each gun. So far as an assault was to be feared, the work was secure against any amount of force which the enemy could bring, previous to the arrival of the Atlantic. The latter, however, brought supplies and men, which enabled us to put it in an efficient state of defense. Since that time we have improved all our means to render the place secure from any attack the enemy may make upon it.

As many erroneous ideas are published about the nature of the attack and defense of Fort Pickens, I shall endeavor to correct some of the erroneous impressions about it. Every fortified place has or ought to have a clear and well-defined object. That of Fort Pickens is to defend the entrance to the harbor of Pensacola, and at the same time to provide against an attack of an enemy superior by sea and land, on the land side from Santa Rosa Island. The work has a casemate on the land side which adds to its defense against an enemy established on the island. In designing the work it was supposed that the enemy, being superior by land and sea, might effect a landing on the island and take possession of the fort. It became, therefore, necessary so to dispose the lines of the faces and flanks as to most effectively protect the channel, and oppose the greatest resistance to the land attack, and, at the same time, so arrange them as to give them the greatest amount of exposure to the fire of the works on the mainland, which works are now in possession of the Seceders. In order to secure this last, nearly all of the faces and flanks are so placed as to be seen either in reverse, or if prolonged, pass through some point on the opposite shore, from which a battery can fire along the face—thus the fires are regarded as the most dangerous to which a work can possibly be exposed. The shore of the mainland is slightly elevated above us; it encircles us to the extent of about 140 degrees, occupying a line of about 41 miles in extent; the different points are situated at from about 2,100 to 2,900 yards from us. You will see that this formation gives him many advantages for bombarding us. To provide against this danger, we have been virtually necessitated to construct what may be called a new fort. This has been effectively done, thanks to the industry of our men and the skill of the engineer soldiers. Without these last we could not have accomplished what we have done. The instruction which these last have received at West Point has saved the country thousands of dollars, and may be many valuable lives. The present difficulty over, I hope that the country will vote liberal amounts for the thorough instruction of the soldiers in all that belongs to the art of war.

The distance of the enemy's batteries from us will prevent his employing very effectively against us any guns, except heavy mortars, columbiads and rifled cannon. His ability to injure us will depend upon the number of guns of those kinds which he has at his disposal.

Our position is not, however, limited to Fort Pickens. We are able to oppose to the enemy's fire a line of 14 miles extent, inferior, it is true to his, and thereby giving him the advantages of a converging fire, but, at the same time, of such extent as to compel him to divide his fire. Our ability to oppose him will depend upon the number of guns of heavy caliber and rifled cannon we may be able to employ within that circle. Having command of the sea, and unlimited means at our disposal, we do not doubt but that we will ultimately be able to discharge a fire superior to that of the enemy. Furnish us with the means and the Seceders can never take the fort, no matter how many men may be brought against it. Give us the means, and with the assistance of our brave allies, the navy, we will soon drive the enemy from his present position. I do not imitate the Seceders in their game of *Brags*; unless by some unforeseen accident, I do not believe it possible for them at present to take the fort.

I do not imagine that, unless compelled to it by political considerations, the enemy will make any attack on the fort. His bombardment might inconvenience us; ours would destroy the Navy-Yard and the workshops, and render his position of not the slightest consequence to him. Gen. Bragg is an able and experienced officer, and not easily moved from a position which was adopted after mature deliberation. He knows what he is about, and is not to be moved by the clamors of political demagogues. Davis knows that the encampment at this place is an excellent school for his young soldiers; he will not foolishly throw it away. He has already removed some of his best troops from this place to the North; their places have, however, been filled by others.

It would not be proper for me to mention our numbers, the state of our works, or our armament. We have constructed several batteries exterior to the work, which will render important service. Both officers and men are enjoying good health, and will, when the proper time comes, perform their duty.

We have but one regret—that our duty keeps us away from that part of the country where, for the first time, military operations are being conducted by armies, approaching in numbers to those of European nations. We regret not to be able to participate in the grand military combinations under the eye of our great captain. We do not fear for our country so long as the direction of affairs are left in his hands; but should the Administration set aside his plans, and adopt those which will be offered to it by plausible politicians, ignorant of anything belonging to war, then indeed have we reason to fear for our country. However, if we cannot uphold her honor and glory we can at least die for her.

FROM CAIRO.

More Outrages on Loyal Men in the South.

From Our Special Correspondent.

CAMP DEFIANCE, CAIRO, Ill., June 16, 1861.

Mr. John M. Collins, a native of Virginia, arrived here last night from Memphis, where he has been confined in prison since the 26th of April. The sole charge against him was that he was the author of a letter from Memphis to *THE TRIBUNE* signed "A Virginian," which was published in April last, and exposed the violence and frauds of the Secessionists. Strong personal influences brought to bear in Mr. Collins's favor saved him from summary punishment. During his incarceration he was once taken before the City Recorder, J. M. Dickerson, who said to him, "It is a matter of profound regret that I am not able to hang you, and who, while on the bench, went on to apply to him the most profane and abusive epithets.

I wish I could relate the means by which Mr. Collins succeeded in making his escape, but due regard for the safety of true men and women still residing in Memphis forbids it. His story is a very thrilling one. He was secreted in Memphis several days. Finally he came away in disguise, and with great difficulty made his way to Columbus, Ky. There he crossed the river in a skiff, and walked the intervening twenty miles to this point. He is accompanied by another young man, who left to avoid being forced to join the Southern army. They both confirm the current reports of the inhuman outrages which the Memphians are committing upon persons who do not sympathize with the traitors. With persecution, robbery, and wanton murder, they are laying up wrath against the day of wrath.

FROM THE U. S. ARSENAL AT PIKEVILLE, MD.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

U. S. ARSENAL, PIKEVILLE, Md., June 14, 1861.

Companies B and K, from Federal Hill, were detailed for special duty at this point, on the evening of Wednesday, June 12, and leaving camp at 6 o'clock, arrived and took possession shortly after 10—a proceeding which was regarded with dissatisfaction by those in charge. Pikeville is not a comfortable quarters, and left for the South, with as many followers as he could mislead with visions of traitor glory.

The Arsenal we found in possession of seven men—indolent, and in favor of the Union, with an *if* and a *but*—a pretty set of public functionaries to hold more than half a million dollars of public property. The fellow who is called the watchman, and performs his duties, is an open Secessionist, and has been heard, since we have been here, to hurrah for Jeff. Davis.

We have a game club among the boys. A party of ladies and gentlemen visited us this afternoon, and the singers set about entertaining them. When Lieut. Plumb of the Star-Spangled Banner, when Lieut. Plumb of Company K requested that the stirring anthem should not be sung, lest it should offend some of the visitors—sympathizers with a banner with fewer stars, and they a little dull just now. The proposal was received with

an outburst of indignant expressions, more forcible than elegant. The boys withdrew, and gathering around the flag-staff from which the stars and stripes were flying free, they thundered out the song of Hope and Faith. We want no officer so delicately constituted as this Lieutenant, nor so many play soldiers.

There is a large quantity of powder here, at least 500 barrels, of the best quality, and the stores are full of ball cartridges and shot. The place should be entrusted to safe hands until the ammunition is removed or a sufficient guard placed over it.

FROM GEN. PATTERSON'S COLUMN.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WILLIAMSPORT, Md., June 17, 1861.

The advanced forces under Gen. Patterson crossed the Potomac yesterday morning at this point, and stood on the sacred soil of Virginia. The passage of the troops was a magnificent sight, such a one that would have done Henry A. Wise good to see, he who of yore vowed his determination to drive back the Yankee hordes, should they dare to invade the Old Dominion. That redoubtable gentleman was not there, however, and our gallant men met no opposition in their invasion.

At this point the Potomac is about 180 yards wide, and at no place deeper than 3½ feet. It was easily forded. The Rhode Island Artillery, from a commanding position near Williamsport, protected the gallant Pennsylvanians. But the Rebels had all down, and there was not the semblance of resistance.

This movement of our troops was made with perfect order, and the men marched through the water with as much steadiness as if they were defiling on the level plain. By night, the Rhode Islanders were the only troops this side of the Maryland line at Williamsport.

This morning the same force are pushing forward toward Martinsburg, where, it is said, there are 2,000 Rebels. No stand will be made by them there, but, with the Harper's Ferry heroes, they will return toward Richmond.

Happening to be in Hagerstown yesterday, I witnessed the arrival and reception of Gov. Hicks, Maryland's loyal Executive. His Excellency arrived by coach from Frederick City, about 10 o'clock, and quattered at the Washington House. He spent the day in conference with Gen. Patterson, at his headquarters in the Female Seminary building.

In the afternoon, he visited the camps of Gen. W. W. Wood and Negley, about a mile south of Hagerstown, and reviewed the 14th and 15th Regiments, Pennsylvania Volunteers. After this interesting ceremony, Gen. Patterson, in behalf of Gov. Hicks, addressed the troops, stating that the Governor was much pleased with the discipline and bearing of these noble men of the Keystone State. Gen. P. then spoke in terms of admiration of the firmness of Gov. H. in keeping his State clear of the Confederates, and resisting by every effort the attempt to drag Maryland into the sink of rebellion. After the address, three cheers were given for Maryland, followed by three times three for Gen. Hicks and Gen. Patterson. His Excellency returned to Frederick City this morning.

It is thought here that a rapid march will be made into Virginia of Gen. Patterson's army, in the hope of surprising at some point the Rebels who seem to be scattering in all directions. A forced and quick march would completely discomfit them at the present juncture.

TANEY VS. TANEY.

In delivering the opinion of the Supreme Court of the United States, January Term, 1859, in the case of Luther agt. Borden et al. (7 Howard's Sup. Ct. Rep., 43), on writ of error from the Circuit Court for the Rhode Island District, in a case of trespass *q. c.* by Martin Luther, a citizen of Massachusetts, against the defendants, citizens of Rhode Island, for breaking and entering the house of Luther on the 29th June, 1842, Mr. Chief-Justice Taney said:

"This case had arisen out of the 'unfortunate political differences' which agitated the people of Rhode Island in 1841 and 1842. It is an action of trespass by the plaintiff in error against defendants for breaking and entering plaintiff's house. The defendants justify upon the ground that large numbers of men were assembled in different parts of the State, for the purpose of overthrowing the Government by military force, and were actually laying war upon the State; that in order to defend itself from this insurrection, the State was declared by competent authority under martial law; that plaintiff was engaged in the insurrection; and that the defendants, being in the military service of the State, by command of their superior officer, broke and entered the house, and searched the rooms for the plaintiff, who was supposed to be there concealed, in order to arrest him, doing as little damage as possible."

And (at page 371):

"But notwithstanding the determination of the Charter Government and of those who adhered to it to maintain its authority, Thomas W. Dart, who had been elected Governor under the new Constitution, prepared to assert the authority of that (new) Government by force, and many citizens assembled in arms to support him. The Charter Government thereupon passed an act declaring the State under martial law, and at the same time proceeded to call out the militia to repel the threatened attack, and to subdue those who engaged in it. In this state of the contest, the house of the plaintiff, who was engaged in supporting the authority of the new Government, was broken and entered in order to arrest him. The defendants were, at the time, in the military service of the old Government, and in arms to support its authority."

Again (p. 45), after commenting on the power of the President, under the Act of 1795, to call out the militia, and stating that the Court had no right to question whether the President's decision, in such case, was right, he says:

"The remaining question is whether defendants, acting under military orders issued under the authority of the Government, were justified in breaking and entering the plaintiff's house."